Assistance to Firefighter Grants Program Award Application now available

April 3, 2007

Washington, **D.C.** - Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis (R-Palm Harbor), a member of the Homeland Security Committee, announced today that the application period for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG) Program is now open. Applications are available at www.firegrantsupport.com

. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will be accepting applications until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 4, 2007. DHS is expected to award more than \$492 million in AFG funds in FY 2007.

The AFG funds are used by firefighters to help increase the effectiveness of their emergency response operations, as well as to improve firefighter health and safety. The program is available for rural, urban, and suburban fire departments and non-fire based EMS organizations throughout the United States.

"Our nation's firefighters and other emergency personnel are on America's frontlines at home in the Global War on Terror," said Rep. Bilirakis. "They ensure the safety of Americans by providing rapid response to our community's emergency needs - no matter how big or small. It is extremely important that the federal government do everything in its power to assist these homeland heroes, and this grant program is one of those ways."

For additional information or questions, please reference the above Web site or contact Rep. Bilirakis' Homeland Security Grants Legislative Assistant James Robertson in Congressman Bilirakis' Washington D.C. office at (202) 225-5755.

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